Amendments to the claims

Please amend the claims as follow:

1. (original) A pharmacological agent for use as preemptive analgesia, comprising, a solution comprising 1% lidocaine HCL and .25% bupivacaine HCL in a ratio less than or equal to 10:1.

2. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 5:1.

3. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 2:1.

4. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 1:1.

5. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution further comprises one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid.

6. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous and peripheral nerve blockade.

7. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution further comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

8. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution is capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

9. (currently amended) A method of reducing perioperative pain, comprising the steps of,

providing a sterile, isotonic pharmacologic agent comprising lidocaine ~~licocaine~~ and bupivacaine ~~bupivicaine~~ in a ratio less than or equal to 10:1; and

~~introducing~~ administering said agent as an adjunct for preemptive analgesia before a surgical procedure is initiated.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said agent is introduced as one or more injectable therapies selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous or peripheral nerve blockade.

11. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said agent comprises 1% lidocaine HCL and .25% bupivacaine HCL in a ratio sufficient to provide at least six hours of analgesic effect.

12. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said agent further comprises one or more vasoconstrictors.

13. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said agent further comprises one or more buffering compounds.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein one or more of said buffering compounds comprises sodium hydroxide.

15. (original) A method of reducing perioperative pain, comprising the steps of,

providing a sterile, isotonic pharmacologic agent comprising 1% lidocaine, .25% bupivicaine and one or more pH buffers; and

infiltrating said agent as an adjunct for preemptive analgesia before a surgical procedure is initiated, whereby said agent provides at least six hours of analgesic effect after infiltration.

16. (original) An injectable preemptive analgesic agent, comprising, 1% lidocaine HCL and .25% bupivicaine in an effective ratio capable of providing at least six hours of analgesic therapy, one or more pH buffers, and one or more vasoconstrictors.

17. (original) A method for administering local or regional anesthesia comprising the steps of,

providing an anesthetic comprising a premixed combination of lidocaine; bupivacaine; and one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid; and

injecting said anesthetic in an amount sufficient to achieve nerve blockage.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises lidocaine hydrochloride and bupivacaine hydrochloride.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said combination comprises 1% lidocaine hydrochloride and 0.25% bupivacaine hydrochloride.

20. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises a mixture of lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio of less than 1:1.

21. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

22. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

23. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous, and a peripheral nerve block.

24. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises one or more vasoconstrictors.

25. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination has a pH of about 7.4.

The following claims are amended to renumber the claims from claims 25-33 to claims 26-34.

~~25~~26. (currently amended) An anesthetic comprising, a premixed combination of lidocaine; bupivacaine; and one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid.

~~26~~27. (currently amended) The anesthetic of claim ~~25~~26, wherein said combination comprises lidocaine hydrochloride and bupivacaine hydrochloride.

~~27~~28. (currently amended) The anesthetic of claim ~~26~~27, wherein said combination comprises 1% lidocaine hydrochloride and 0.25% bupivacaine hydrochloride.

~~28~~29. (currently amended) The anesthetic of claim ~~27~~28, wherein said combination comprises a mixture of lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio of less than 10:1.

~~29~~30. (currently amended) The anesthetic of claim ~~25~~26, wherein said combination comprises a mixture of lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio of less than 1:1.

~~30~~31. (currently amended) The ~~anesthetic~~ method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

~~31~~32. (currently amended) The ~~anesthetic~~ method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is

capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

~~32~~33. (currently amended) The ~~anesthetic~~ method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous, and a peripheral nerve block.

~~33~~34. (currently amended) The ~~anesthetic~~ method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises one or more vasoconstrictors.